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Charter and By-Laws of the Franklin Lyceum. 1843.

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COLLEGE
LIBRARY

CHARTER

AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

FRANKLIN LYCEUM,

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

PROVIDENCE:
B. F. MOORE, PRINTER.
1843.

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CHARTER.

General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations: January Session, 1843.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE FRANKLIN LYCEUM.

SECTION I.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly as follows, viz: That Charles Burnett, Jr., Henry B. Metcalf, William M. Rodman, Walter W. Updike, Benjamin G. Godfrey, James L. King, Edward A. Greene, Robert Manton, John Dean, Charles H. Mason, George Thurber, William B. Shove, Isaac Proud, Daniel W. Vaughn, Richard E. Hamlin, Thomas L. Dunnell, Albert Dailey, William Knowles, Augustus Whitman, William Whitaker, Walter C. Simmons, James Chace and Nathan Stevens, all of Providence; and such others as now are, or hereafter may be, admitted members of this Society, be, and they hereby are, constituted, created and made, a body politic and corporate with perpetual succession, by the name and style of the Franklin Lyceum, with full power to make and ordain, alter and amend, such By-Laws, Rules, and Regulations for their government, as they may think necessary, the same not being contrary to the laws of this State: and they are empowered by the aforesaid named to sue and be sued, to plead and be impleaded, to

hold and enjoy any kind of Estate, real or personal, to an amount not exceeding ten thousand dollars, whether obtained by gift, devise, purchase or otherwise, and to despose of, and convey the same at pleasure: to have a common seal, which they may alter or change, as they may think proper; and the following shall be their present

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This Society shall be called the Franklin Lyceum.

ARTICLE II.

The officers of the Lyceum shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, Cabinet Keeper, and Standing Committee, all of whom shall be elected annually by a majority of the members present, at an annual meeting, and always by ballot.

ARICLE III.

It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all regular meetings of the Society, to preserve order, to put questions to vote, and to give the casting vote.

ARTICLE IV.

In the absence of the President, the duties of the office shall devolve upon the Vice President; and in the absence of both, a Chairman shall be elected by a majority of the members present.

ARTICLE V.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a true record of all the proceedings of the Society, to take charge of all papers and documents, and generally to perform all the duties appertaining to the office of Secretary.

ARTICLE VI.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer, to keep all accounts, pay all bills when properly audited, collect all fines, receive all monies belonging to the Society, and to report the state of the Treasury, at every annual meeting, or oftener if required.

ARTICLE VII.

It shall be the duty of the Librarian to take charge of the Library, and enforce such laws as the Society may adopt, concerning its regulation, and to make an annual report of the state of the Library.

ARTICLE VIII.

It shall be the duty of the Cabinet Keeper, to preserve order in the arrangement of the Cabinet of minerals and other collections, and to make an annual report of the state of the Cabinet.

ARTICLE IX.

The Standing Committe, shall consist of three members' whose duty it shall be to have the care of all property, not assigned to any other custody; to propound persons for admission, to examine, audit, and certify all accounts against the Society, before they are paid; and to report annually.

ARTICLE X.

The annual meeting of the Society shall take place on the first Monday Evening in January, when an election of officers shall be made.

SECTION II.

The foregoing act, and everything therein contained, shall be forever hereafter subject to all acts of the General Assembly, in amendment or repeal thereof, or in any wise affecting the same.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. Members of this Lyceum shall be termed Resident Members, including all who pay taxes; Corresponding Members, or such as reside at a distance from the city of Providence; and Honorary Members, being admitted such in consequence of their Literary or Scientific attainments: and who shall be propounded by the Standing Committee, at a regular meeting, at least one week before admission, and always to be elected by ballot.

SECTION 2. No candidate shall become a member against whom two ballots may be cast, nor until he has subscribed to the Constitution, and paid two dollars into the Treasury.

SECTION 3. A Resident member, on removing from the City, or its vicinity, with the intention of residing abroad; by giving notice of his intention to the Secretary, and by the payment of his arrears to the Treasurer, may become a corresponding member; and a corresponding member on removing to the City, or its vicinity, with the intention of residing permantly therein, may become a resident member, by payment of the initiation fee, and by subscribing to the Constitution: and if such corresponding member, shall have been a resident mem-

ber, he may resume his resident membership without payment of the initiation fee, or again signing the Constitution.

SECTION 4. None but resident members shall be entitled to vote, be eligible to any office in the Lyceum, have the use of the Library or apparatus, be subject to taxation, or have any ownership in any property belonging to the Lyceum.

SECTION 5. Any member shall be entitled to dismission, by requesting it in writing, through the Secretary, and producing a certificate from the Treasurer of payment of all dues to the Lyceum.

SECTION 6. Any member ceasing to be a resident mem ber, and the death, dismission, or expulsion of a member, thereby relinquishes, terminates, and extinguishes all ownership, and interests of himself, or of any person in his behalf, in and to any property, belonging to the Lyceum, or to him as a member thereof.

SECTION 7. Any member shall be liable to expulsion or dismission, for disorderly or immoral conduct, or for neglecting for one year, to pay his proportion of assessments or taxation. Provided always, that a motion to expel or dismiss a member, shall be made at a regular meeting two weeks previous to taking a vote thereon; and no member shall be expelled, or dismissed except by the votes of three-fourths of the members present, at a regular meeting, due notice having been given to the delinquent of the motion pending, and it shall the duty of the Treasurer to report such delinquencies.

SECTION 8. Any person who shall have been admitted a resident member, and shall neglect to pay the admission fee, and subscribe to the Constitution within three months from the time of his admission, shall be considered ineligible to membership, unless again propounded and elected.

ARTICLE II.

MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. The Lyceum shall be convened weekly, at their room at such time as may be appointed; and every atten-

tion of the time of meeting, shall be recorded one week before it takes effect.

SECTION 2. Six members shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 3. A special meeting shall be called by the President at any time at the request of six members: and the Secretary shall notify the members of such meeting.

SECTION 4. At every meeting of the Lyceum, the proceedings of the meeting next previous, shall be read, before the transaction of any other business.

SECTION 5. At the annual meeting, there shall be an Editor elected in addition to the officers named in the Charter.

ARTICLE III.

EXERCISES.

SECTION 1. The prominent exercises of the Lyceum shall be Lectures, Debates, Declamations, and a paper.

SECTION 2. On the first Monday evening in each month, there shall be a Lecture; and Debates on the other evenings; and no person not a member, shall be allowed to lecture, except by a vote of the Lyceum.

SECTION 3. There shall be an Anniversary celebration of the Lyceum, during the first week in January, of every year, when there shall be an Oration and Poem, — the Orator and Poet to be elected by the Society, from among its members.

ARTICLE IV.

OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. *Presiding Officer.* It shall be the duty of the presiding officer to supply vacancies in the offices and appointments of the Lyceum, until the same are otherwise supplied; to state the business on record to be transacted; to announce the exercises for the next meeting; and to sign certificates of membership.

SECTION 2. *Secretary.* It shall be the duty of the Secre-

tary to make and preserve a record of all donations and loans, with the names of the donors and lenders; and such information relating to donations and loans, as the Lyceum may deem proper; to read the record of the preceding meeting; to notify candidates of their admission, and to give certificates of membership, under the Seal of the Lyceum.

ARTICLE V.

TAXATION.

The expenses of the Lyceum shall be defrayed by an equal tax on each resident member, not exceeding the sum of four dollars per annum; and no tax shall be collected unless assessed by a vote of the Lyceum.

ARTICLE VI.

LIBRARY.

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the Librarian, to enter in a book, kept for that purpose, the title of every book in the Library, with the name of the donor or lender.

SECTION 2. No person shall be allowed to take books from the Library, except resident members, without the consent of the Librarian.

SECTION 3. No member shall withdraw a book which he has loaned the Lyceum, without giving the Librarian one week's notice of his intention.

SECTION 4. Books may be taken out and returned at any regular meeting, and if any book be injured, the person on whose account it is taken out, shall pay such damage as the Librarian with the Standing Committee may determine.

SECTION 5. Every member shall be entitled to the use of two Volumes, and no more at one time; but may exchange them weekly.

SECTION 6. No member shall retain a book from the Library longer than two weeks, under a penalty of twelve and a half cents, for every subsequent week's retention; and every book not returned within three months, may be considered lost, and shall be paid for at the apprised value, with the amount of fines due; and if the book lost belonged to a set, the whole set shall be paid for if required; and the member on such payment, may take the remaining volumes.

SECTION 7. All books shall be returned one week previous to the Annual meeting.

SECTION 8. In case a book loaned to the Library, shall be lost, the Lyceum shall make good the loss to the owner.

ARTICLE VII.

CABINET AND DEPARTMENTS.

SECTION I. The Cabinent and Scientific collections shall be divided into the following departments, viz:—

1. Geology, and Mineralogy.
2. Botany, and Conchology.
3. History, and Antiquities.
4. Mechanics, and Useful Arts.
5. Fine Arts.
6. Phrenology, and Mesmerism.
7. Natural Philosophy, and Chemistry.

Each Department shall be placed under the charge of a dis-

tinct Committee, to be appointed by the President and Cabinet Keeper, whose duty it shall be to report to the Cabinet Keeper, the state of their respective departments, at least two weeks previous to the Annual meeting.

SECTION 2. All specimens and articles of every kind whatever deposited in the Cabinet, or either of its departments, shall belong to the Lyceum, unless otherwise specified at the time of the deposit.

ARTICLE VIII.

ALTERATION OF LAWS.

SECTION 1. No application shall be made to the General Assembly, for any alteration, or amendment of the Charter of this Lyceum, without a motion to make such alteration, or amendment shall have been made, at a regular meeting, and recorded on the journal at least two weeks previous to taking the vote thereon; nor unless it receives the votes of three-fourths of all the members present.

SECTION 2. No By-Law shall be enacted, amended, or repealed, unless on motion made and recorded one week; nor unless two-thirds of those present, vote in favor of such motion.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

FIRST.

The following shall be the order of exercises at all regular meetings of the Lyceum, viz:

1. The proceedings of the previous meeting shall be read, and mistakes, if any, corrected.
2. Declamation.
3. Paper.
4. Declamation.
5. Debate or Lecture.

SECOND.

The ayes and noes shall be entered on the journal at the request of any three members.

THIRD.

When two or more members rise at once, the Presiding Officer shall name the one to speak first.

FOURTH.

Any member on being called to order, shall immediately sit down, unless permitted by the President to explain, and the Lyceum shall if appealed to, decide on the case: but without debate.

FIFTH.

Every member present, when a question is put, shall give his vote, unless excused by the Lyceum.

SIXTH.

When a motion has been made, and carried, in the affirmative, or negative, it shall be in order for any member of the majority, to move for a reconsideration of the same,

SEVENTH.

No motion shall be debated or put, unless the same shall have been seconded: when seconded, it shall be stated by the President before debate, and shall be reduced to writing, at the request of the President, or any member.

EIGHTH.

In debating, two disputants, who shall be appointed by the President, shall open and close each question in the following order: first in the affirmative, and second in the negative: after the question has been opened, any member may have the liberty of making such remarks in relation to it, as he may think proper, and after discussion the question shall be decided by a vote of the Lyceum.

NINTH.

A motion to adjourn, shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate.

TENTH.

It shall require a majority of two-thirds of the members voting, to suspend a rule.

ARTICLE

ON THE ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION.

SECTION 1. This Constitution shall go into operation on the meeting (of the Lyceum) next after its adoption.

SECTION 2. All existing Constitutions, laws, rules or regulations of the Lyceum, which are inconsistent with this present Charter, Constitution and By-Laws, are hereby repealed: provided, however, that all officers and committees already elected or appointed, shall continue in the discharge of their duties, to such offices as this constitution provides.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

† Allen, William C.
Beckwith, Henry T.
Burnett, Charles, Jr.
Chace, James
Dailey, Albert
Davis, Edward N.
Dean, John
Dunnell, Thomas L.
Fiske, Philip M.
Godfrey, Benjamin G.
Greene, Edward A.
Hamlin, Richard E.
Jenkins, William C.
King, James L.
Knowles, William
Manton, Robert
McCarthy, Campbell
Mason, Charles H.
Metcalf, Henry B.
Proud, Isaac
Richmond, Franklin H.
Rodman, William M.
Shove, William B.
Simmons, Walter C.
Stevens, Nathan
Thurber, George
Updike, Walter W.
Vaughan, Daniel W.
Wheelock, Joseph B.
Whitaker, William
Whitman, Augustus

† Deceased.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Arnold, Arthur A. — Mobile, Alabama.
Ballou, Hosea, Jr. — do.
Bartlett, Robert C. — New York.
Chandler, John — Augusta, Maine.
Chesbrough, Aaron C. — Savannah, Georgia.
Chesbrough, George W. — New York State.
Cushing, C. J. — Rock River.
Cushing, Frank — do.

Cushman, William M.	Mobile, Ala.
Dorr, Henry C.	New York.
Eldridge, John S.	Boston, Mass.
Fenner, C. George, 2d.	Divinity School, Har'd Univ'ty.
Hamlin, William E.	Philadelphia, Pa.
Holden, Levi H.	U. S. corps of Surgeons.
King, Joseph O.	South Hadley, Mass.
Nightingale, Crawford	Greenfield, Mass.
Pitman, Joseph S.	Law School, Harvard Univ'ty.
Randolph, Thomas L.	Saco, Maine.
Rodman, Thomas P.	Yarmouth Port, Mass.
Scudder, C. W.	Boston, Mass.
† Torry, J. S.	Harvard University.
† Urmeneta, Geronimo	Chili, South America.
Wetmore, George P.	New York.
Whitaker, Thomas A.	do.

† Deceased.

OFFICERS.

President. - - -	CHARLES BURNETT, JR.
Vice President, - - -	HENRY B. METCALF.
Secretary, - - -	WILLIAM C. JENKINS.
Treasurer, - - - -	ALBERT DAILEY.
Librarian, - - -	CHARLES H. MASON.
Cabinet Keeper, - - -	WILLIAM B. SHOVE.

STANDING COMMITTEE.

JAMES CHACE, BENJAMIN G. GODFREY,
JOSEPH B. WHEELOCK.